

CLAIMS

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1. A method of test receiving alternative reception frequencies in a receiver receiving a continuous flow of information at a first reception frequency, the continuous flow of information comprising user terminating information, the receiver comprising an information transfer routine extracting a flow of specific user terminating information from the received continuous flow of information, characterized in that said method comprises the steps of:

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- determining an interruption in the flow of specific user terminating information;
- evaluating the interruption if it will be of an adequate length of time, and generating a positive response if it is evaluated that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time;
- changing reception frequency of the receiver from the first reception frequency to an alternative reception frequency if the evaluation has generated a positive response;
- test receiving the alternative reception frequency;
- enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information.

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2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the receiver is receiving the continuous flow of information of a terrestrial digital video broadcasting (DVB-T) transmission.

3. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the receiver is receiving the continuous flow of information of a digital audio broadcasting (DAB) transmission.

4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the step of evaluating the interruption comprises the steps of:

- determining a probability that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time;
- determining if the probability is larger than a predetermined threshold value;

and if it is determined that the probability is larger than the predetermined threshold value then it is evaluated that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time.

5. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that an adequate length of time of an interruption is at least equal a total time of one test reception and one frequency change.

6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the step of determining an interruption in the flow of specific user information is done by prediction of an expected interruption in the receiver of the flow of specific user information.

7. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the step of determining an interruption in the flow of specific user information it is determined that an interruption in the flow of specific user information has occurred by an indication by the information transfer routine.

8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the step of determining an interruption in the flow of specific user information it is determined that an interruption in the flow of specific user information has

occured after a predetermined period of inactivity of the flow of specific user information.

9. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the step of determining an interruption in the flow of specific user information it is determined that an interruption in the flow of specific user information has occurred after a timeout signal is generated by the information transfer routine.

10. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after the step of test receiving the alternative reception frequency has completed.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after a predetermined time intervall from the point in time of the step of changing the reception frequency from the first reception frequency to an alternative frequency.

12. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after a predicted available time period.

13. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after the information transfer routine has requested more information.

14. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after a predetermined period of time after the information transfer routine has requested more information.

15. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after the information transfer routine is activated.

16. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information is performed after a predetermined period of time after the information transfer routine is activated.

17. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 16, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of determining a list of alternative frequencies.

18. The method according to claim 17, characterized in that after the step of test receiving the alternative reception frequency the method further comprises the steps of:

- changing reception frequency of the receiver from an alternative reception frequency to a further alternative frequency from the list of alternative frequencies;
- test receiving the further alternative frequency.

19. The method according to claim 18, characterized in that the steps of:

- changing reception frequency of the receiver from an alternative reception frequency to a further alternative frequency from the list of determined alternative frequencies;

- test receiving the further alternative frequency;

5 are repeated by changing to alternative frequencies from the list of determined alternative frequencies.

20. The method according to claim 18, characterized in that the steps of:

10 - changing reception frequency of the receiver from an alternative reception frequency to a further alternative frequency from the list of determined alternative frequencies;

- test receiving the further alternative frequency;

15 are repeated by changing to alternative frequencies from the list of determined alternative frequencies, until all the frequencies from the list of determined alternative frequencies are test received.

20 21. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 20, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of evaluating the test reception or test receptions based on one or more parameters of the test received alternative frequency or frequencies.

25 22. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 21, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information comprises the step of:

30 - changing the reception frequency to the first reception frequency.

23. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 22, characterized in that the method further comprises a step of initiating a handover to an alternative frequency.

24. The method according to claim 23, characterized in that the step of initiating a handover comprises the steps of:

- determining a handover frequency to which frequency the reception should be changed;
- changing reception frequency of the receiver to the handover frequency.

25. The method according to claim 24, characterized in that the step of initiating a handover further comprises the steps of:

- determining a further interruption in the flow of specific user terminating information;
- evaluating the further interruption if it will be of an adequate length of time, and generating a positive response if it is evaluated that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time;

and in the step of changing reception frequency to the handover frequency only changing reception frequency of the receiver to the handover frequency if the evaluation of the further interruption has generated a positive response.

26. The method according to claim 25, characterized in that the step of evaluating the further interruption comprises the steps of:

- determining a probability that the further interruption will be of an adequate length of time;
- determining if the probability is larger than a predetermined threshold value;

and if it is determined that the probability is larger than the predetermined threshold value then it is evaluated that the further interruption will be of an adequate length of time.

5 27. The method according to claim 26, characterized in that an adequate length of time of a further interruption is at least equal a total time of one frequency change.

10 28. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 21, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information comprises the step of:

15 - changing the reception frequency to one alternative reception frequency, and thus initiating a handover from the first reception frequency to the alternative reception frequency in question.

20 29. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 21, characterized in that the step of enabling reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information comprises the step of:

- initiating a handover from the first reception frequency to the alternative reception frequency that was test received most recently.

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30 30. A receiver being arranged to receiving a continuous flow of information at a first reception frequency, the continuous flow of information comprising user terminating information, the receiver comprises an information transfer routine arranged to extract a flow of specific user terminating information from the received continuous flow of information, the receiver further being arranged to be able to test receive alternative reception frequencies, characterized in that to enable test receptions of

alternative reception frequencies without disturbing the reception of the flow of specific user terminating information the receiver further comprises:

- first determining means arranged to determine an interruption in the flow of specific user terminating information;
- first evaluation means arranged to evaluate if the determined interruption will be of an adequate length of time;
- first changing means arranged to change reception frequency of the receiver from the first reception frequency to an alternative reception frequency if it is evaluated in the first evaluation means that the interruption is of an adequate length of time;
- test means arranged to test receive the alternative reception frequency when the first changing means has changed reception frequency to the alternative reception frequency; and
- enabling means arranged to enable reception and extraction of the flow of specific user terminating information.

31. The receiver according to claim 30, characterized in that the receiver is arranged to receive the continuous flow of information of a terrestrial digital video broadcasting (DVB-T) transmission.

32. The receiver according to claim 30, characterized in that the receiver is arranged to receive the continuous flow of information of a digital audio broadcasting (DAB) transmission.

33. The receiver according to any one of claims 30 to 32, characterized in that the first evaluation means further comprises:

- second determining means arranged to determine a probability that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time;

- third determining means arranged to determine if the probability is larger than a predetermined threshold value; and if it is determined that the probability is larger than a predetermined threshold value then it is evaluated in the first evaluation means that the interruption will be of an adequate length of time.

34. The receiver according to any one of claims 30 to 33, characterized in that an adequate length of time of an interruption is at least equal a total time of one test reception and two frequency changes.

35. The receiver according to any one of claims 30 to 34, characterized in that the enabling means comprises:

- second changing means arranged to change the reception frequency to the first reception frequency.

36. The receiver according to any one of claims 30 to 35, characterized in that the receiver further comprises handover means arranged to initiate a handover from the first reception frequency to an alternative frequency.

37. The receiver according to any one of claims 30 to 34, characterized in that the enabling means comprises:

- handover means arranged to initiate a handover from the first reception frequency to the alternative reception frequency that was test received most recently.